

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in any of SEQ ID NO: 1 ~~and~~ or SEQ ID NO: 3;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding ~~a~~ the polypeptide at least 85% identical to one of:

- the polypeptide as set forth in ~~any of~~ SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the encoded polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2;
or

- the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein the encoded polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4;
and

(c) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under ~~moderately~~ stringent conditions with one of:

- (a) or (b); or
- the nucleotide sequence 1-102 of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 1-102 of SEQ ID NO:3; or
- the nucleotide sequence 319-606 of SEQ ID NO:1 or 319-606 of SEQ ID NO: 3; or
- the nucleotide sequence 1027-1201 of SEQ ID NO: 3[[.]]; or
- a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in any of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, with one conservative amino acid substitution, wherein the encoded polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in any of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4.

2.-3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of ~~any of claims 1, 2, or 3~~ claim 1 and a promoter operatively linked to the nucleic acid molecule.

5. (original) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 4.

6. (original) The host cell of claim 5 that is a eukaryotic cell.

7. (original) The host cell of claim 5 that is a prokaryotic cell.

8. (original) A process of producing an LGR6-SVs polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 5 under suitable conditions to express the polypeptide, and optionally isolating the polypeptide from the culture.

9. (currently amended) A polypeptide ~~produced by the process of claim 8 or~~ encoded by the nucleotide sequences of claim 1.

10. (currently amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the ~~nucleic acid molecule comprises~~ promoter is not DNA other than the native promoter DNA for the ~~native~~ LGR6-SVs polypeptide ~~operatively linked to the DNA encoding the LGR6-SVs polypeptide.~~

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A process for determining whether a compound inhibits LGR6-SVs polypeptide activity or LGR6-SVs polypeptide production comprising:

(a) exposing a cell according to claim 5 any of claims 5, 6, or 7 to the compound;
and

(b) measuring one of:

- LGR6-SVs polypeptide activity in said cell, wherein a decrease in activity indicates that the compound inhibits LGR6-SVs polypeptide activity; or
- LGR6-SVs polypeptide production in said cell, wherein a decrease in production indicates that the compound inhibits LGR6-SVs polypeptide production.

13. (currently amended) The An isolated polypeptide ~~comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in any~~ of claim 9 wherein the polypeptide is characterized by the following:

- (a) the polypeptide comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (b) the polypeptide comprises the sequence set forth in ~~or~~ SEQ ID NO: 4;
- (c) the polypeptide comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 with one conservative amino acid substitution, wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (d) the polypeptide comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 with ~~at least~~ one conservative amino acid substitution, wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in ~~any of SEQ ID NO: 2 or~~ SEQ ID NO: 4.

14. (currently amended) ~~The A-mature form of the isolated~~ polypeptide according to claim 13, wherein the polypeptide does not comprise a signal sequence.

15. (currently amended) ~~An antibody A-selective binding agent or fragment thereof~~ that specifically binds the polypeptide ~~of any of claim 13 claims 13 or 14.~~

16. (currently amended) The ~~antibody selective binding agent or fragment thereof~~ of claim 15 wherein the antibody that specifically binds ~~a the~~ polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in any of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 ~~or a fragment thereof.~~

17. (currently amended) The ~~antibody selective binding agent~~ of claim 16 wherein the that is an antibody comprises a Fab or F(ab') ~~or a fragment thereof.~~

18. (currently amended) The ~~antibody selective binding agent~~ of claim 17 wherein the antibody that is a humanized antibody.

19. (currently amended) A method for treating, preventing, or ameliorating an LGR6-SVs polypeptide-related disease, condition, or disorder comprising administering to a patient an ~~effective amount of a selective binding agent~~ antibody according to claim 16.

20.-22 (canceled)

23. (currently amended) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 13 ~~any of claims 13 or 14~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable formulation agent.

24.-26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 13 ~~or 14 that~~ wherein the polypeptide is covalently modified with a water-soluble polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, mono-methoxy polyethylene glycol, dextran, cellulose, poly-(N-vinyl pyrrolidone) polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol homopolymers, polypropylene oxide/ethylene oxide copolymers, polyoxyethylated polyols, and polyvinyl alcohol.

28.-31. (canceled)

32. (currently amended) ~~The A-fusion~~ polypeptide of claim 13 wherein ~~comprising the polypeptide of any of claims 13 or 14 fused to a heterologous amino acid sequence~~ is a fusion protein.

33. (currently amended) The fusion polypeptide of claim 32, wherein the **fusion protein comprises** ~~heterologous amino acid sequence~~ is an IgG constant domain or fragment thereof.

34. (canceled)